poned the scheme due to monsoons, foolds and vacations in primary schools in some states during the period. These States implemented the scheme during August to October, 1996.

Reports received from 441 districts show that 75.9% schools were covered and 84.91% of the enrolled children were examined for common ailments which included anaemia, worm infestations, night blindness, iodine deficiency disease (goitre), ear discharge, scabies, pyderma, vision defects and dental problems. Statements giving state-wise coverage and break up of number of children examined and found to be suffering from different ailments are attached at annexure.

[*See Appendix 179, Annexure No. 11*]

(d) States/UTs have been advised to give referral cards to the children suffering from various ailments for detailed check up and treatment at Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals. The Professional Bodies like Indian Medical Association, Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Indian Opthalmic Association, Indian Dental Association and National Society for Prevention of Blindness have also been involved for taking care of referrals.

Functioning of Mahila Swasthya Sangha

406. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many members of the Mahila Swasthya Sangha had assembled in Gwalior on the occasion of the World Population Day;

(b) whether any oath was taken by them; if so, details thereof;

(c) what follow up action is being taken to see that the oath takers are provided with the voluntary work for which they have taken oath;

(d) whether it is a fact that after taking the oath, nothing is being done by them in the area of population growth control; and

(e) measures to tackle this problem by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) On the occasion of the World Population Day, 1995 a Central level function was organised at Gwalior in which about 1500 members of Mahila Swasthya Sangha Participated. In 1996 the function was organised at Delhi and representatives of women's income generation groups, Primary School teachers and Gram Pradhans participated.

(b) The oath taken by MSS in 1995 is at Statement-I Oath taken in 1996 is at statement II. (*See* below)

(c) Women's groups and MSS have been entrusted with Family Welfare inter personal communication among the community as a regular activity.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

World Population Day

PLEDGE

(As administered in 1995)

We, the Members of Mahila Swasthya Sangh, Pledge to spread the message of small family norm, right age of motherhood and adoption of family welfare methods for ensuring spacing between two children for better health of mothers and children in our villages and promoting the cause of the Girl Child.

We, the Members of Mahila Swasthya Sangh also pledge to work for the upliftment of status of women in our villages by promoting education of Girl Child, Employment opportunities for women and community participation in village development.

We, the Members of Mahila Swasthya Sangh, commit ourselves to overall development and betterment of the life of the villagers in our country.

Statement-II

World Population Day, 1996

PLEDGE

I pledge to devote myself for the overall development of our country; for the better health of our mothers, and for a brighter future for our children.

I commit myself to spreading the messages of small family norm; right age of marriage and adoption of family planning methods to delay the first child as well as space the second child and promote a conducive atmosphere at home during the period of pregnancy. For, only a healthy mother can give birth to a healthy child.

I also pledge to work towards making the family welfare programme a mass movement.

May God Help me in my endeavor

Swasthya Melas organised during the last two years

407. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the numbers of Swasthya Melas organised during the last two years and outcome thereof;

(b) the response to these Melas in the tribal areas;

(c) whether there are any shortcomings of these Melas; if so, details thereof; and

(d) what follow-up action is taken after the mela is over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) 33 Swasthya Melas have been organised through NGOs and these were successful.

(b) Response to these melas was satisfactory in all the areas.

(c) No shortcomings have been reported by the NGOs.

(d) In respect of serious cases referral arrangements are made by NGO concerned.

Achievement under the programme for Control of Acute Respiratory Infections

408. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievement of Government during the current year under the programme for Control of Acute Respiratory Infections;

(b) the shortcomings of this programme and how this programme can be improved; and

(c) what further steps Government are taking to control Acute Respiratory Infections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) The information is contained in the Statement below:

Statement

The programme for control of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) was launched in the country in 1990 as a pilot project in certain selected districts. Following successful implementation of the pilot project, ARI control was integrated with other interventions under the Child Survival and Safe Mother-hood (CSSM) Programme under implementa-